



■ Kwame Myers, six, who is fascinated by ambulances and paramedics, with Patrick Brooks

'Dream come true' for wannabe paramedic

A six-year-old boy whose twin brother died three weeks after being born has realised his dream, after spending time with paramedics and climbing on board an ambulance.

Kwame Myers was born prematurely at 23 weeks at University College London Hospital, weighing 11b 10oz.

His twin brother Shaka died three weeks later.

Kwame spent six months in hospital undergoing heart surgery, a hernia operation, and also had long-term jaundice.

For the last few years the pupil from St Matthias Primary School in Wordsworth Road, Stoke Newington, has been fixated with ambulances and paramedics and cannot wait until he is old enough to train to be one.

Kwame and his mother Hyacinth, of Shacklewell Lane, Dalston, met Patrick



■ Kwame Myers weighed just 11b 10oz when he was born

Brooks from London Ambulance Service, who showed them different ambulances and equipment.

Kwame, who also has a 14-year-old brother, said: "I just want to help sick people and babies, like I was helped."

Single parent Ms Myers, 40, said his dream had come true.

"Kwame is fascinated by ambulances and paramedics to the point of talking about the training he needs, waving to every ambulance,

stopping anyone in uniform and watching documentaries," she said.

"Kwame has had a lot of illnesses over the years, but throughout the whole time ambulance and hospital staff were fabulous."

Mr Brooks added: "When Hyacinth got in touch and we heard Kwame's story and how brave he's been over the years, we didn't hesitate to invite him along to see how we work. He'll make a great paramedic when he's older."



■ Families gather outside St Mary's Lodge to make their plea for action

Picture: Isabel Infantes

Campaigners' appeal to save historic house

Call for compulsory purchase of St Mary's

by Emma Bartholomew
emma.bartholomew@archant.co.uk

Conservation campaigners have reignited calls for the compulsory repurchase of a much-loved and historic mansion house which has now been left derelict for more than 11 years.

The Stoke Newington Conservation Area Advisory Committee (CAAC) has urged Hackney Council to take action over St Mary's Lodge in Stoke Newington after four years of wrangling between the council and two different owners failed to secure a new use for the site.

It is understood a new planning bid is about to be submitted by current owners Keren Habinyan Ltd following the refusal of their plans to turn it into a nursery school and flats last year.

But campaigners fear any further lapse in time will result in the 13-room lodge in Lordship Road falling be-

yond restoration altogether.

The lodge was sold by a local philanthropist family to the council in 1959, well below the property's market value on the condition it was used for educational or charitable purposes.

It was run as a hostel for unwed mothers until the mid-90s, when squatters moved in and it fell derelict.

The building was sold to trustees of the Torah Etz Chaim synagogue next door at a knock-down price of £705,000 in 2002 – on the condition it was used for education and community use.

Derelict

Since then the lodge has become more derelict, surviving demolition in 2004, only when elected Mayor Jules Pipe promised the council would do everything legally possible to protect the building.

But the lodge's decay continued, and it was gutted by fire in 2005, used as a dump-

ing ground for tyres in 2008 and then in 2009 a whole section of wall – comprising Victorian bricks – was removed in broad daylight.

It has since been bought by Keren Habinyan Ltd, a company operating on behalf of the local Vishnitz-sect Hasidic community, for £875,000 but it has been unsuccessful in securing planning permission.

A letter signed by 34 local residents last week called for compulsory purchase said: "The owners have had every chance to use the building for the covenanted purpose. If left in their hands it will eventually collapse."

A council spokesperson said officers met with developers on January 14 and are expecting to receive a planning application shortly.

"In the meantime we are continuing to monitor the condition of the property," he added.

The Gazette was unable to contact Keren Habinyan.

Amwells | Solicitors
Specialists in personal injury law

AMWELLS SOLICITORS HAVE WINNING IDEALS:
We will run further and faster with your accident claim and ensure that you receive the best advice available to take you to your ultimate goal

Call today:
0845 130 9792
or email: claims@amwells.co.uk
Amwells.co.uk

One of our experienced personal injury specialists, each with over 20 years experience, will call you back for a free, no obligation assessment of your claim.

Authorised and Regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority under Amwells's ref. no. 462381
Recognised sole practitioner Angela McCallion, Senior Litigator APL

TRINITY CENTRE (DALSTON)

The Annual Clowns Service and Show
Sunday 3rd February

Annual Grimaldi Service
Holy Trinity Church,
Beechwood Road,
London E8 3DY
from 3pm

The Clown Show
The Trinity Centre,
Beechwood Road,
London E8 3DY
from 5pm

No booking necessary but this free family event is very popular, each year the crowds are bigger and bigger so early attendance is essential to secure a good vantage point.

Web site: www.thetrinitycentredalston.org.uk
Email: tcdalston@thetrinitycentredalston.org.uk
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/#!/TCDalston>

The Message of Light and Salvation Ministry

Brings good news to Mankind
We offer the following services for all ages:

- Healing • Counselling
- Prophecy • Prayer

The Lord God Almighty has blessed me and I can help you with **Infertility Problems** – I am Highly Anointed in this area.

Pray and Believe that your prayers are answered.

For an appointment contact
Reverend Maria
(Highly Anointed Servant of God)
Mobile 07451 401780
Email thessageoflight@yahoo.com
Leave your name and contact number and we will call you immediately